the base year in the first six months of 1987; and

(b) the impact of these rises in each year of the Seventh Plan, on (i) Plan projects estimates and (ii) Persons below poverty line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) The Concumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (base 1960-100) for January, 1987 (latest available) at 688 does not show any increase over December, 1986 level. In the absence of the Consumer Price Index for later months, it is not feasible to estimate the increase in the first six months of 1987.

(b) Does not arise.

Unaccounted money in the country

2560. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual estimated generation of unaccounted money in the country and how much of it is estimated to be in circulation at present;

(b) what steps have been taken to eliminate the generation and circulation of black money; and

(c) whether a portion of unaccounted money, has often been used in meeting the high costs of elections and if so, what steps have been taken in this regard in 1985 and 1986 and with what results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) There is no official estimate of the amount of black money in circulation in the country. The National Institute of Public Finance and Policy in their report on 'Aspects of Black Economy in India" have estimated the black income for 1983-84 between Rs. 31584 to Rs. 36786 crores. The authors have, however, admitted that their estimate is based on numerous assumptions and approximations, each of which can be challenged.

(b) Combating tax evasion is a continuous process and Government is fully committed to it. All possible measures to curb generation of black money, legislative, administrative and institutional are being taken from time to time. As a result of liberal fiscal policies, revenue collections have gone up in the last financial year. The liberalisation of Summary Assessment Scheme and reduction in the tax rates of direct taxes is, however, only one limb of the policy. The other limb is intensive scrutiny and searches and seizures in the remaining cases so as to leave no doubts in the minds of tax-payers that they cannot get away with anything they declare in their returns of income. Enforcement machinery is being strengthened and the number of searches have substantially increased.

(c) There is no such definite information. Necessary action under direct taxes Acts will be taken whenever definite information comes to the notice of the Department.

Foreign Exchange outgo on debt services

2561. SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA:
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the annual foreign exchange outgo on debt services is about 22.8 per cent of the annual export earnings, while 20 per cent has been considered as the danger mark;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what would be the estimated position in the next couple of years when repayment instalments related to the IMF loan are expected to be on the peak?